WORLD PARISH

AMERICAN EDITION

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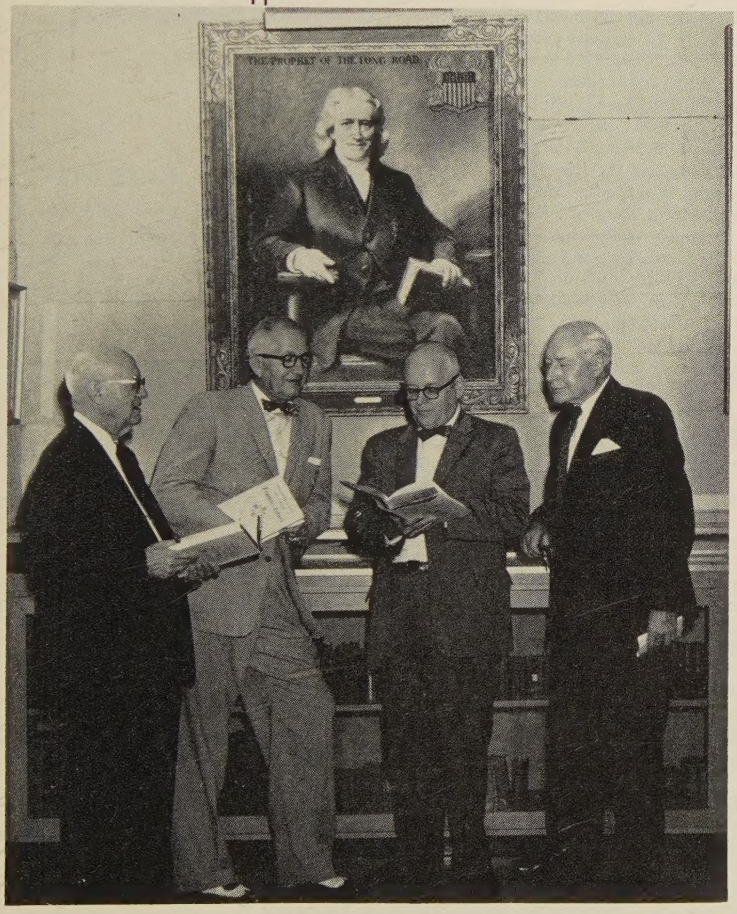
AUGUST, 1958



In a ceremony at Lake Junaluska the American publisher of the new annotated edition of the *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury* presented the first volume to the three editors. Left to right: Dr. Elmer T. Clark, Editor-in-Chief of the two volumes of the *Journal,* Mr. Cecil D. Jones, Manager of the Abingdon Press, Dr. J. Manning Potts, Editor-in-Chief of the volume of *Letters,* and Dr. Jacob S. Payton. In the background is Salisbury's famous portrait of Asbury.

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MINUTES
WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL (SECTION XIII)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LAKE JUNALUSKA, NORTH CAROLINA
June 26-28, 1958

The Executive Committee of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council met at Lambuth Inn, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 1958. It was preceded by a meeting of the Program Committee. Those present were Bishop Paul E. Martin, Chairman, Bishop Fred P. Corson, Bishop Arthur J. Moore, Bishop Willis J. King, Edwin L. Jones, J. Manning Potts, J. W. Fowler, Robert E. L. Bearden, T. Otto Nall, Elmer T. Clark, Mrs. Paul Arrington, Miss Dorothy McConnell; among the visitors present were Albea Godbold, Frederick E. Maser, Lawrence Sherwood, J. B. Cain, and Dow Kirkpatrick.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held at Baltimore November 4, 1957, were adopted as printed in WORLD PARISH for February 1958.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary, Elmer T. Clark, presented a written report, as follows:

I am submitting as a part of this report the printed minutes of our meeting at Baltimore on November 4, 1957, which has already been mailed to all members of the Section. We have endeavored to keep them informed of all developments, and therefore no lengthy report is needed. Certain matters should, however, be pointed out.

EXCHANGE OF PREACHERS

At our last meeting a committee was appointed to confer with executives of the Board of Missions with reference to carrying on our exchange program after the retirement of Dr. Karl Quimby, the final adjustment to be made by the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Several conferences were held, after which general direction of the program was assumed by Dr. T. Otto Nall, and Dr. Henry C. Sprinkle accepted responsibility for the reception of incoming preachers in New York.

We have discussed the desirability of arranging for all the British preachers to arrive and depart at the same time. This would greatly simplify the work.

We are all aware of the service rendered by Dr. Quimby and his efficient secretary, Mrs. Mahlbacher, and their inability to continue the work on a voluntary basis is greatly regretted. The committee should express its appreciation by appropriate resolutions.

Information Service

Following the example of other world confessional bodies we have recently started an *Information Service*. The first bulletin has been sent to members of Section XIII and other interested persons. We hope to issue other bulletins from time to time in order to keep our members informed of all developments.

Meetings

The Secretary, Treasurer, Dr. Ferdinand Sigg, and Dr. E. Benson Perkins attended the Conference of World Confessional Bodies at Geneva, Switzerland, on November 14-15, 1957. Representatives from the Baptist, Friends, Lutheran, Congregational, Presbyterian and Reformed, and Anglican bodies were present, as were secretaries of the World Council of Churches. This was a significant ecumenical meeting, the first of its kind ever held, and it is to be repeated at convenient intervals. It was purely informal and no organization was set up.

The Secretary was present at the program of the World Federation of Methodist Women held in connection with the Assembly of the Woman's Society of Christian Service in St. Louis on May 6-9. Ten thousand Methodist women were present, the largest such group ever assembled.

The International Congregational Council will hold its world conference at Hartford, Connecticut on July 2-10. I have asked Dr. T. Otto Nall to be our fraternal delegate to that meeting.

Other meetings in which the World Methodist Council is interested, and which will be attended by our representatives, are the following:

July 19-29—Methodist Theological Institute, Oxford, England. This is under the sponsorship of the World Council and will be attended by nine instructors and lecturers and twenty-five other members from the United States, under the leadership of Dr. Dow Kirkpatrick.

July 31-August 4—World Executive Committee, Freudenstadt, Germany.

August 7-10—Centennial of Danish Methodism, Copenhagen, Denmark.

August 22—Second Conference of World Confessional Bodies, Nyborg Strand, Denmark.

World Methodist Handbook

The World Council of Churches is preparing to publish a series of books on the various confessional groups in its membership. We have agreed to cooperate in preparing the volume on Methodism. This will be explored further at the meeting of the representatives of the various groups in Denmark in August.

Union Movement

One item on the agenda of the World Executive Committee concerns the union schemes which involve Methodism in England, West Africa, North India and Pakistan, and Ceylon. American Methodism is not involved in

some of these schemes, but the World Methodist Council is interested in the preservation of the essential Methodist values in any union movement anywhere.

Another agenda item relates to a closer union of Methodism. Of course, we are already united in a very real sense, for there are no theological differences of importance between any of our churches anywhere. There are, however, forty or fifty different independent Methodist denominations with certain deviations in polity and administration only. Americans would perhaps favor the creation of one world-wide Methodist Church, but there is some reason to believe that this would not meet with the approval of the British Church. At any rate the subject should be explored.

In this connection I am submitting a plan entitled, "An Organization for World Methodism," prepared by Bishop Charles W. Brashares. This relates to The Methodist Church, U.S.A., only. He proposes a rearrangement by which the General Conference could meet at any place in the world, and Methodism in the United States would become a Central Conference like those now existing in Europe, Asia, Africa, and elsewhere. Bishop Brashares thinks that under this plan "instead of breaking off from Methodism to merge into state or national churches, Methodism in India, Africa, South America, even British Methodists and the autonomous churches of Brazil and Mexico, might like rather to be a part of World Methodism."

Epworth Old Rectory

The Treasurer will present a report on the Epworth Rectory fund. This most famous of all Methodist shrines is now owned by the World Methodist Council and Section XIII has five members on the Board of Managing Trustees. In 1956 the Council asked the Trustees to raise a fund of approximately $35,000 for the reconditioning of the building.

Late in 1957 the chairman of the Trustees stated that he could no longer prosecute the appeal for funds, and it was turned over to the Secretary and Treasurer. We have secured and remitted over $36,000. This is more than we were asked to raise, but it is around $14,000 less than was spent on the property, over and above the purchase price of $13,500, which was paid by our British brethren.

No money is now coming in, and we are agreed that little more can be secured by our methods. Unless we can enlist the help of the bishops, some of whom have already responded liberally, it seems that we must either pay the balance over a long period out of our budget or inform the Board of Managing Trustees, on which the responsibility was placed, that we can do no more.

Encylopedia of Methodism

The Lutheran World Federation now has 700 scholars working on a Lutheran World Encyclopedia. The Mennonites have published a similar work in four large volumes. The editor of an Ecumenical Encyclopedia now being prepared in Germany has written to urge the Methodists to undertake a similar work.

Fifty years ago the Ecumenical Methodist Conference called for the production of an Encyclopedia of Methodism. This has been repeated several times, and was adopted by the World Methodist Conferences in 1951 and 1956. The various Methodist Historical Societies have added their endorsement, and the Methodist Publishing House has expressed its interest.

Still nothing has been done. It is felt that the Encyclopedia should now be projected with World Methodism cooperating.

Since all the work would be voluntary this should not cost too much annually, although a long period will be required for its completion. If this Committee will make an appropriation for the expense of gathering the material, it will probably be duplicated by the Association of Methodist Historical Societies.

Program of the Tenth Conference

The Treasurer and Secretary sat with the Program Committee of Section IX (Great Britain) and with the Section itself last November. The program suggestions tentatively put forward there were sent to the members of this Executive Committee and comments were invited. This has been considered by the American members of the Program Comittee, which will present its report.

The British outline is as follows:

General Theme—METHODIST WITNESS IN THE WORLD CHURCH

A. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The Holy Spirit in Biblical Teaching.
2. The Holy Spirit in the Church.
3. The Holy Spirit and "Catholic" Claims.
4. The Holy Spirit and Basic Methodism.

B. FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE IN THE CHURCH

1. The Relation of Man and Woman—including the family, the association of Man and Woman in fellowship and service, and Adult Education.
2. The guidance and education of Youth in Church and School.
3. Modern methods of direct Evangelism.

C. ECUMENICAL PRACTICE

1. Methodist cooperation in Missionary Strategy.
2. Practical Relationships with other Churches.
3. Unity and Differences in Ethical Teaching, e.g. Marriage and Divorce, Gambling, etc.

Place of the Tenth Conference

The World Executive Committee in August will doubtless name the place for holding the Tenth World Methodist Conference in 1961. In informal discussion we have expressed a preference for a British city, probably Bristol, while our British brethren seemed to favor a place on the continent of Europe. It is our feeling that Americans generally would prefer a British city, and a conference on the Continent would probably be reduced to the size of a Council meeting. American members of the World Executive Committee would like to have an expression of opinion from this committee.

Meeting of Section XIII

Section IX (British) has regular meetings, but there has been no full meeting of Section XIII. This is much regretted, since we are trying to

maintain the maximum degree of democracy and make membership in the Section meaningful. It is recommended that a meeting be held by the end of 1958 or soon thereafter and the Treasurer will advise us on the financial aspects.

Probably the meeting should be held a day or two previous to some other gathering, although this has disadvantages as well as advantages. Possibilities are the meetings of the Council of Bishops at Cincinnati on November 11-14, and the Council of Secretaries at an undesignated place on November 10-11. It is hoped that the President of the World Methodist Council, Dr. Harold Roberts, and perhaps the Joint Secretary, Dr. E. Benson Perkins, can attend the Sectional meeting.

West Indies and Latin America

In the division of responsibility between the two Secretaries, Dr. E. Benson Perkins maintains contacts with Great Britain and Continental Europe, while contacts with North, Central and South America and the West Indies has been assigned to the Secretary resident in this country. Dr. Perkins has developed a biennial conference of European Methodists which has proved to be of great value and importance; several American Methodists attended the conference at Stockholm last summer.

We have developed nothing of the kind on this hemisphere, but the Secretary, accompanied by Bishop Holt and Dr. J. Manning Potts, visited the Provincial Council of Methodism in the West Indies at Antigua. It was the first fraternal contact between the church on the mainland and that of the Caribbean island world in two hundred years. The welcome extended to us and the evident values mutually derived from the visit convinced us that such relationships should be extended. It is believed that the Secretary and other officers should make another such visit when it can be arranged.

World Methodist Building

A word should be said about the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska, which is owned by the World Methodist Council and used as its headquarters in this country. Interest in the building and its contents seems to increase each year. It is visited annually by tens of thousands of people, and in the summer two and sometimes three hostesses are required to escort them and explain the collection. Many come in large groups and are frequently young people. During the present month we have had groups from Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Maryland, District of Columbia, Oklahoma, and Illinois. Thus the building is doing much to spread information among our people about the World Methodist Council and the history of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Elmer T. Clark, *Joint Secretary*

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Mr. Edwin L. Jones, stated that his books for the last fiscal year, ending May 31, 1958, had been audited and a copy of the audit had been filed with the Commission on World Service and Finance. He made the following report:

Cash Balance as of May 31, 1957 ..... $ 5,551.59

RECEIPTS

Council on World Service and Finance	$40,000.04	
Association Methodist Historical Societies (recovery of office expenses)	1,236.00	
Special Donation—Epworth Euclid Methodist Church for Dr. Olson	750.00	
Special Donation—Mrs. Lois Perkins	500.00	
Special Donation—Joe and Lois Perkins Foundation	2,000.00	
Epworth Rectory Fund	20,849.67	
Refund travel expenses—Edwin L. Jones	1,000.00	
Funds transferred from reserve account	30,500.00	
Insurance refund	3.79	
Interest on savings and bonds	654.09	
Loan—Skyland Hotel Company	1,400.00	
Bond maturities	20,000.00	118,893.59

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 3,000.00	
Office Personnel	5,702.30	
Expense—President's office	224.00	
Office Supplies	3,351.27	
Publications	5,479.84	
Travel—Executive Committee, etc.	4,960.41	
Archives Materials	328.08	
Promotional and Cultivation	2,557.81	
Contingencies	1,477.92	
Current disbursements to savings account 1957-58	30,500.00	
Repayment of Loan—Skyland Hotel Company	1,400.00	
Epworth Rectory Fund	28,174.67	
Special for Rev. Atherton Didier, Jamaica	350.00	
Special—Theological Institute, Oxford, England	2,280.00	
Special for Dr. Oscar Olson, travel	1,000.00	
Withdrawal—reserve account-purchase Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	10,000.00	100,786.30
Cash in Banks as of May 31, 1958		$23,658.88

The Treasurer pointed out that the budget had been adopted for the quadrennium, but that he and the Secretary were given power to make necessary adjustments within the total.

Resolutions of Appreciation

The following resolution concerning the services of Dr. Karl Quimby to the Committee on Exchange of Preachers was adopted:

WHEREAS, Dr. Karl Quimby for eight years administered in the United States the work of the Committee on Exchange of Preachers of the World Methodist Council with marked devotion and effectiveness, earning the merited respect and affection of the numerous persons who were served by the Committee on both sides of the Atlantic; and

WHEREAS, his recent retirement has rendered impossible a continuance of his valued services in the Exchange program;

THEREFORE, Be it resolved, that deep gratitude and sincere appreciation of the work of Dr. Quimby, and of his secretary and asociate, Mrs. Nita Mahlbacher, be expressed by the Executive Committee of Section XIII of the World Methodist Council;

And be it further resolved that Dr. Quimby and Mrs. Mahlbacher be furnished a copy of this resolution, duly signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and that it be spread upon the minutes of the Committee.

Epworth Rectory Fund

The Treasurer pointed out that in November, 1957, the chairman of the Board of Managing Trustees of the Epworth Rectory, to which Board the responsibility of raising the Rectory fund was committed by the World Methodist Council in 1956, had stated that he could no longer prosecute the matter and had turned the records over to the Secretary. As of the present date, over $38,000 has been raised and remitted to England. This is $3,000 more than was asked by the Council, but less than the amount actually spent. The Treasurer submitted a list of all the contributions received and stated that little was coming in at the present time and still less was expected in the future.

In discussion it was pointed out that much of the money had been raised by certain bishops. Bishop Corson, Bishop Moore and Bishop Martin stated that they would be willing to write a letter to those of their colleagues who had not cooperated in this project and ask them to undertake the completion of the fund. This offer was accepted with gratitude, and the bishops were asked to proceed at an early opportunity. It was agreed that Bishop Martin would prepare the letter and that the three bishops would sign it.

Miss Dorothy McConnell stated that the women of the church had made no contribution to the Rectory Fund in their organized capacity, and she was asked to contact the proper persons and secure such a contribution if possible.

West Indies

J. Manning Potts referred to that section of the Secretary's report dealing with the Church in the West Indies, pointing out the very great advantages of fraternal contacts between the church on the mainland and that in the West Indies. The Secretary stated that the Provisional Synod of West Indies Methodism would meet at Barbados on October 17-27, 1958, and his recommendation concerning another visit was accepted.

The Committee adjourned.

Friday, June 27, 1958

The Executive Committee reassembled at Lambuth Inn at 9 a.m., with the chairman, Bishop Martin, presiding.

Exchange of Preachers

Dr. T. Otto Nall presented the following report:

When the officers of the American Section, World Methodist Council, asked me to take the responsibility of heading the Committee on Exchange of Ministers, I did so with some reluctance. As Dr. Karl Quimby, who did such a noteworthy pioneering work with this exchange, has so well pointed out, the program calls for wide expansion. But Dr. Quimby has given the exchange such a promising start that I dared to undertake to build on the sturdy foundations that he laid.

Among all the varied aspects of World Methodist Council work this exchange of ministers seems to me to be probably the most significant. It is more than an exchange of parsonages and pulpits for a few weeks; it is an exchange of traditions and experiences. It considerably enriches the churches that participate. It is one of the most hopeful and meaningful

projects in the direction of making Methodists the world around really one people.

In a recent report, Dr. Quimby urged that there be an exchange of theological professors. This is a little difficult to arrange because of differences in courses and standards, even between the United States and Europe. But we are moving in this direction. Last year, during a sabbatical leave, Professor Murray H. Leiffer, of Garrett Theological Institute, lectured in our three seminaries in Europe. Next year Professor Henry E. Kolbe, also of Garrett, will be studying at Oxford, and may be available for some visits to our European seminaries. Probably next year, too, Professor Otto J. Baab, of Garrett, will be in Europe studying and lecturing.

Syracuse University has asked me to try to arrange an exchange for Professor James M. Ward for one or two semesters in the academic year, 1960-61. The word is that if an exchange professor were received so that Dr. Ward's teaching duties were covered, he could receive full pay for the year.

It can easily be seen that this is far more than arranging a few preaching appointments for a visiting educator, as I have done this summer in the case of the distinguished Professor Frank Hambly of Australia.

I find that Dr. Quimby gave considerable attention to this kind of work, and some requests have come to me from the Board of Missions. For example, a missionary teacher in South Africa wants to come to the United States to deliver lectures before women's and youth groups on Zuzuland, Swaziland and Basutoland. I am trying to help her make a usable contact with Scarritt College and the youth division of our Board of Education, but, pending directions from you, I am not giving much encouragement to these travelers who come without any pulpit or desk exchange. I am afraid that we would soon find ourselves in the position of a travel agency, routing people here and there and building up quite a fund of ill-will in any cases where the visitors failed to deliver. I need your guidance on this whole matter.

In one case this summer I had to make a drastic change in schedule. Without knowing a preacher from overseas, I had scheduled him to occupy the pulpit of one of our best churches. British leaders urged me to pull him out. They had agreed to the exchange only on condition that it be between small churches. Fortunately, I was able to make a new arrangement.

The British leaders are continually reminding us that their exchanges must be approved by their Conference. The travel subsidy comes from the Conference. Obviously, such a procedure is not possible for us, because the General Conference meets only every four years. I believe that we ought to be sure that an exchange is authorized by the bishop. Some preachers will make their own independent arrangements, and we can hardly prevent that. But I am jealous that the reputation of the World Methodist Council be protected in this regard. If you authorize it, I will draw up some kind of instrument that the bishop can sign, indicating his approval.

There should be a statement about policies and procedures and, if you will authorize it, I will prepare such for presentation to the officers for approval. In my judgment, there should be in the statement some suggestions for selling the idea of an exchange to official boards. That has caused some difficulties and could cause more. I doubt that we need to go into

some details of conduct (the British memorandum for exchange preachers cautions against smoking in public), but we do need to offer some definite help to the American preacher going abroad. He ought to know what to expect and how to confront some pattern situations.

I am particularly eager, as Dr. Quimby was, to exchange beyond the British-American dimension. He suggests an interchange with Canada. I have explored with Rev. Ralph B. Huston, of South Miami, Florida, concerning exchanges in the Caribbean area. I have been in touch with Dr. Joseph B. Webb concerning exchanges with South Africa. There have been a number of letters from New Zealand and Austraila. I am inclined to think that, except for Britain, this is the most live possibility. Any suggestions that can be offered will be appreciated.

As I have indicated, Dr. Quimby planned this year's exchanges—I have done nothing beyond writing a letter of welcome to each visitor, making some preaching appointments and providing for a welcome on arrival in New York.

The first exchange was completed this spring, and there are seven American Methodists, and as many Britons (if an Irishman will allow himself to be so included), in this summer's exchange. I have sent Stanley Leyland, my opposite number on the other side of the Atlantic, a list of nine possible exchanges for next summer, and I have at least as many more since writing him in mid-April.

May I express again the feeling of privilege I have in undertaking this task. I am grateful to Dr. Quimby, who has charted the way so well, to Dr. Leyland, who has been unfailingly helpful, and to you, who have believed me able to serve you.

This report was accepted and Dr. Nall was authorized to issue a handbook of information, and to secure the opinion of the bishop on each exchange minister before his appointment. It was also agreed that he should concentrate on exchange preachers, and that no attempt should be made to arrange intineraries for visitors; however, he should use his judgment in the case of official persons like departmental secretaries who might apply to him for assistance.

Institute of Theological Studies

Dow Kirkpatrick presented his report on the Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies to be held at Lincoln College, Oxford, July 19-29, 1958, including the daily program of the Institute. He pointed out that nine faculty members and twenty-five others from the United States would attend and he outlined the method by which these were nominated and enrolled.

World Federation of Methodist Women

Mrs. Paul Arrington, vice president of the World Federation of Methodist Women, presented a report as follows:

The World Federation of Methodist Women has experienced new life, spirit, and growth since becoming an affiliate of The World Methodist Council. Three new national units have become members since 1956. They are Free Methodist of U.S.A., Nigeria, and Yugoslavia. This gives a total of 45 national units of 40 countries as members of the organization.

Methodist women of these units are experiencing the ecumenical relationship in a meaningful manner through the organization; sharing literature, problems, accomplishments and goals are stimulating factors for every

unit. The loyalty, sacrificial giving of self and means, the dedication of life, the desire for spiritual development and educational growth on the part of Methodist women everywhere give great promise. They desire to take their world-wide responsibility for creating a climate wherein differences can be settled by a meeting of minds and popular conscience to covenant together. We look forward to the time when the organization will have consultative status at the U.N.

It is heartening to all to have women of Tasmania, Fiji Islands, the Leeward, Virgin, Bahamas, Nassau and other island groups now related to the organization.

There are now 5 national units in the United States and already there are evidences of understanding, appreciation, and a togetherness through sharing among these groups.

We believe Methodist women of the world today are now more closely knit together and all to God, as they are seeking to know Christ more fully and make his way more effectively felt in all human relationships.

Sectional Meeting

Edwin L. Jones brought up that section of the Secretary's report referring to the need for a meeting of all the members of Section XIII. He stressed the desirability of this and stated that he believed it would be possible to finance such a meeting.

After lengthy discussion it was voted to hold such a meeting for all North American Sections at Philadelphia, on December 9-10, 1958, and that the Executive Committee should meet on the previous evening. It was further agreed that the theme for this meeting should revolve around the sesquicentennial of the adoption of the Constitution of American Methodism in 1808. A program committee was appointed consisting of the officers and Frederick E. Maser, pastor of St. George's Church, with the understanding that Dr. Maser should be in charge of local arrangements.

Tenth World Methodist Conference

There was discussion concerning the World Methodist Conference to be held in 1961. The Secretary presented the program suggestions made by the British members of the program committee. It was agreed that the next session of the committee should discuss this entire matter further, and T. Otto Nall was asked to put into written form the various suggestions that had been made by the American members.

Announcement was made concerning the evening program at the Memorial Chapel, designated as "Francis Asbury Night." Bishop Fred P. Corson would speak on Francis Asbury, and Mr. Cecil D. Jones, vice president of the Methodist Publishing House and manager of the Abingdon Press, would make the initial presentation of the new three-volume annotated edition of the *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury*.

The committee adjourned.

Saturday, June 28, 1958

The Executive Committee reassembled at 9 a.m. at Lambuth Inn, with Bishop Paul E. Martin in the chair.

Tenth World Methodist Conference

Discussion of the program and arrangements for the 1961 meeting of the World Methodist Conference was resumed. The Secretary stated that he and Mr. Jones had attended two meetings of the British members of the

program committee in London last November, and that in discussing the place mention had been made of Bristol, England, and certain cities on the continent of Europe.

On motion of Bishop Arthur J. Moore, the following resolution was adopted:

"It is the sense of the Executive Committee of Section XIII that we can secure a much larger delegation and make the Conference much more meaningful if it should be held in London."

On motion of Edwin L. Jones, the following resolution was adopted:

"We request the World Executive Committee, meeting at Freudenstadt, to formulate some financial policy regarding the expenses of our World Methodist Conference that will be fair to the host church and that will secure a larger attendance from the far-flung Methodist body."

Program Suggestions

Dr. T. Otto Nall presented a formulation of suggestions for the program, as follows:

General Theme: *The Methodist Witness, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*

I. *Our Witness and the Holy Spirit*
- The Holy Spirit and Biblical Teaching
- The Holy Spirit and Basic Methodist Credentials
- The Holy Spirit in the Life and Organization of the Church
- The Holy Spirit and Individual Commitment

II. *Our Witness and Our Fellowship*
- The Traditional Fellowship of Classes and Bands
- Fellowship in Today's Family Churches
- Fellowship with Other Communions in the World Church
- The Gathered Church and the People's Church

III. *Our Witness in the Contemporary World*
- Methodist Cooperation in Missionary Strategy
- Methodist Witness in Christian Education
- Methodist Witness in Social Action
- Witnessing for the Gospel in a Space Age

Dr. Nall was asked to prepare a statement enlarging on the various elements of this suggested program for presentation to the World Executive Committee at Freudenstadt.

Committee on Future Policy

There was a discussion concerning our policy and budget after 1960. On motion of the Secretary, it was agreed to set up a committee to report at the Philadelphia meeting of the Section on December 9-10, 1958. This committee was constituted as follows: Bishop Paul E. Martin, Bishop Fred P. Corson, Bishop Arthur J. Moore, Edwin L. Jones, Elmer T. Clark, and Miss Dorothy McConnell. A meeting was ordered at Cincinnati on the evening of November 10 and the morning of November 11.

General Conference Representation

T. Otto Nall raised the question of a fitting program for the World Methodist Council at the General Conference of 1960. Bishop Arthur J. Moore and Bishop Fred P. Corson moved that the Secretary contact the General Conference Program Committee and request that an evening be set aside for hearing the fraternal delegates from other Methodist bodies

and that this program be under the auspices of the World Methodist Council. This resolution was voted.

Publications

Reference was made to that section of the Secretary's report dealing with an *Encyclopedia of Methodism.* It was agreed that this publication, as well as a new *History of American Methodism,* should now be undertaken, with the cooperation of the American Association of Methodist Historical Societies and the various Sections of the World Methodist Council. The Secretary stated that at an appropriate time he would arrange a meeting of interested persons for a full discussion of the nature of these two publications.

T. Otto Nall reported that he had had conferences with the A. N. Marquis Company of Chicago and found them interested in a new edition of "Who's Who In Methodism." Dr. Nall was asked to continue negotiations with these publishers.

Dr. Nall also made some proposals for a world-wide Methodist news coverage, and outlined the general character of a publication. He stated that there were three possibilities: (1) establish a new publication and provide for its support through the budgets of the World Methodist Council; (2) enlarge *World Parish* and increase its frequency, perhaps to a monthly basis; (3) perfect an arrangement with an existing publication, like the *Methodist Recorder.* Dr. Nall was asked to present this matter to the World Executive Committee at Freudenstadt.

Union Movement

The Secretary referred to that section of his report on union movements and submitted the plan proposed for American Methodism by Bishop Charles W. Brashares. He was instructed to circulate this proposal. It is as follows:

AN ORGANIZATION FOR WORLD METHODISM
Relating to The Methodist Church, U. S. A.

By Bishop Charles W. Brashares

American Methodism is really a world Methodism, but it is organized as an American Church, the General Conferences always meeting here. We have been "the sending church," others the "church overseas." As the spirit of nationalism rises the church in other lands objects to "leading strings" from the United States, and tends to merge into national churches, though they are not too happy in that relationship. In Japan the United Church was crushed by war. When otherwise help would have been sent to rebuild the churches in Japan, the United Church had little power to lay the foundations of Christian democracy when the gates were all open. State and national churches lack the broadmindedness and catholicity characteristic of real Christianity.

1. We mean by a World Methodist Church not a gathering of all Methodist denominations as there was at Lake Junaluska in 1956, nor a World Federation of Methodist Women, but a rearrangement to create a General Conference which could meet any place in the world

and develop a world perspective and strategy. We are so accustomed to our present organization that we do not realize how strange is the organization of a *world church* which meets always in America and whose bishops speak only English. The World General Conference should be very small at first and should consider only those things which are important to all countries alike.

A. Should the various boards in the various Central Conferences in "overseas" countries be related to one another? The development of Educational institutions, for example, is a professional task. Instead of a local board in each Central Conference overseas, without experienced guidance, could not the American Board of Education assist in the development of the overseas educational institutions? This might be accomplished by regular meetings of the boards of all Central Conferences (the American Church being a Central Conference). Or there might eventuate a federation of boards of all Central Conferences, leaving freedom to each but a sharing of experience by all.

This could be true of all Boards. (Years ago confusion arose as to which Board was responsible overseas. The problem was settled for that time by placing all overseas work in charge of the Board of Missions in New York. This clarified the situation but left all overseas work without the help of our Boards of Evangelism, Education, Social and Economic Relations, Lay Activities, Hospitals and Homes, etc., except when a special invitation was extended by the Board of Missions. Overseas groups might want a voice in these invitations. Arrangements made thirty years ago should not deter us from trying to find a better arrangement today when young churches are stronger.)

B. Further, our Board of Missions must now finance overseas education, evangelism, and everything else.

C. Because we are recognized abroad as an American Church, our properties there are frequently taken by enemy countries while Roman Catholic properties are left intact because they are regarded as part of a world movement.

2. Some changes would result.

A. Methodism in the United States would become a Central Conference like the Southern Asia Central Conference. The latter has freedom to adjust the Discipline to its needs. American Methodism is bound by a Discipline adopted at a General Conference where the most influential speech for women preachers is made by a delegate from India.

B. The funds of the Board of Missions would be used mainly for developing new churches around the world exactly as the Division of National Missions does here. Thus our funds would go much further. Other Boards could help (if they wished) to finance colleges, hospitals, and other institutions abroad.

Announcements and Adjournment

Announcements were made concerning that there would be an address by Bishop Willis J. King at 8:00 p.m. and that on Sunday Bishop Arthur J. Moore would preach at both morning and evening services in the Assembly Auditorium.

The Committee then adjourned.

Paul E. Martin, *Chairman*
Elmer T. Clark, *Secretary*

Available at last! The long-awaited

THE JOURNAL

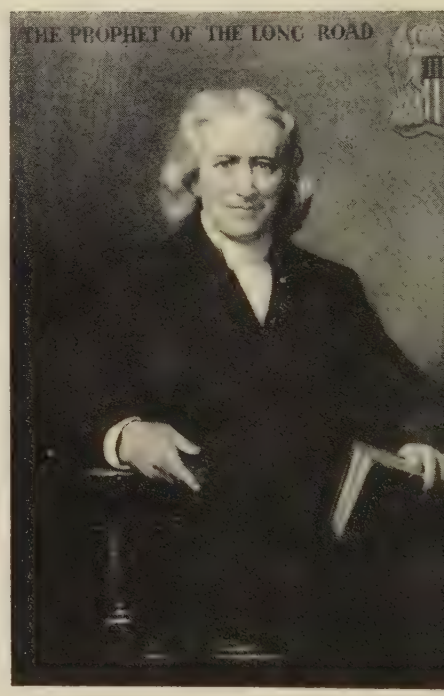
★

Edited by Elmer T. Clark, J. Manning Potts, and Jacob S. Payton, with the assistance of 15 regional editors, under the sponsorship of the National Historical Publications Commission of the U.S. Government, the World Methodist Council, and the Associated Methodist Historical Societies of the World.

★

This notable work has been approved by two Presidents of the United States and by both Houses of the National Congress. It has been recommended by President Eisenhower for inclusion in all the overseas libraries of the United States Information Agency. No Methodist work in all history ever received such endorsement.

★



FRANCIS ASBURY
by Frank O. Salisbury of London
Original Paintings in the World
Methodst Building at Lake Junaluska

Who better than Francis Asbury could tell the amazing story of the early years of Methodism in America? As he himself says, "As I have been (under God and my Brethren) the principal overseer of the work in America, and have constantly travelled from the centre to the circumference of the Connexion, I flatter myself that reasonable men will acknowledge that I have always had an opportunity of obtaining better information relative to the true state of the whole work than any other man could possibly have."

Here is Asbury's story as he told it in his Journal—plus more than 500 of his letters, many now published for the first time!

3 Volumes, Boxed, $21 in America. 150 Shillings in Great Britain—Available only in sets.
Order from the Epworth Press, London, or any branch store of the Methodist Publishing House in the United States.

AND LETTERS OF *Francis Asbury*

THE JOURNAL

The Journal covers the period from August 7, 1771—to the beginning of the Bristol Conference, which sent Asbury to America—to December 7, 1815—three months and seventeen days before his death.

This accurate and readable edition follows Asbury's words and meaning, but it does not perpetuate the chronological, biographical, geographical, and grammatical errors of previous editions. Extensive notes by the editors correct errors in dates and scripture quotations, identify persons and places, and furnish other supplementary information illuminating passages in the Journal.

In a very valuable introduction, Dr. Clark discusses Asbury's renown, his contributions as an explorer and traveler, culture-bearer to the frontier, educational pioneer, and publisher; his early life; building up The Methodist Church; the incident of the proposed biography of Asbury; his writing of the Journal and its various publications. The Journal is generously illustrated with maps and line drawings, and is extensively indexed. A special feature of this edition—a feature which increases both its readability and its value as a reference—is the use of subtitles to identify the states with which that portion of the Journal is concerned.

THE LETTERS

Many of Asbury's letters have been lost. Those now available are particularly valuable in showing the human side of this great leader, and in providing more details on some events than are presented in the Journal. This collection—the first ever published in one volume, and including many letters published for the first time—is the result of an extensive search for his correspondence, and includes all of Asbury's letters available to the editors at the time of compilation. A few letters to Asbury are also included.

The Introduction by J. Manning Potts discusses Asbury's importance in Methodism, the literary qualities of his letters, and how they reveal his human side. Each letter is introduced by editorial comment giving its background, identifying the person to whom it is written, and emphasizing points of interest.

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

LAKE JUNALUSKA, NORTH CAROLINA
June 28, 1958

The Executive Committee of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies met at Lambuth Inn, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 28, 1958. Those present were: Edwin L. Jones, T. Otto Nall, Jacob S. Payton, J. Manning Potts, Albea Godbold, Frank B. Stanger, Frederick E. Maser, J. B. Cain, Lawrence Sherwood, Elmer T. Clark, and Mrs. Kenneth Stahl. Several members of the Methodist Historical Society of the Southeastern Jurisdiction also sat with the Committee.

In the absence of the President, Dr. T. Otto Nall served as chairman of the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held at Baltimore, Maryland, November 5, 1957, were accepted and approved as published in World Parish for February, 1958.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary read his annual report, as follows:

The work of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies continues to make steady progress. The historical collection in the World Methodist Building is increasing and attracts thousands of visitors annually. As previously reported, several Methodist histories and biographies are underway. This year marks the sesquicentennial of Methodism in Alabma, and the Secretary has participated in fitting observances at one conference of that state. Those familiar with the work of the Association during the past four quadrenniums will understand the extraordinary progress that has been made. Much of this is due to our cooperation with the World Methodist Council, with which we maintain joint headquarters and share expenses.

Journal and Letters of Asbury

This seven-year project has at last been completed and the volumes will soon be available. It is being published jointly by the Abingdon Press in this country and the Epworth Press in Great Britain and is the first joint publication of the two great Methodist publishing houses.

This is one of the publication projects of the National Historical Publications Commission of the United States Government. On June 17th I attended a luncheon in the Capitol at Washington given in honor of the editors of the fourteen projects now under way. Most of these are being edited at universities, including Princeton, Chicago, Yale, Columbia, Tennessee, South Carolina and Kentucky. Among those at the luncheon were all the members of the Commission, the Chief Justice and six Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and many others in official positions. Later there was a discussion meeting of

the editors of the papers of Adams, Asbury, Calhoun, Carroll, Clay, Franklin, Hamilton, Hayes, Jefferson, Johnson, Madison, Polk, Roosevelt, and Wilson. The chairman at this session was the Chief Archivist of the United States. The whole occasion was significant in that it demonstrated the interest of and encouragement of our Government in historical matters of this kind, and in its recognition of Francis Asbury as one of the great men in early American history.

Finances

A detailed financial report will be submitted by the Treasurer. The fiscal year ended with a balance of $8,565.88, of which $6,495.45 has been set aside as a reserve fund. This favorable report is due to our cooperative arrangement with the World Methodist Council.

It is recommended that the budget remain the same, but that the Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to readjust certain items in order to provide $2,500.00 per year for the *Methodist Encyclopedia* in the hope that a similar amount will be provided by the World Methodist Council.

Asbury Trail

The Boy Scouts of America have established an Asbury Trail Award, giving a medal and certificate to the Scouts who hike the Asbury Trail used by Asbury and McKendree in 1810 and prepare a paper on the life and work of Asbury. The route follows the aboriginal Cataloochee Indian Trail from near Lake Junaluska to the Tennessee state line. It has been marked by the National Park authorities and hundreds of Scouts from many states have already made the two-day hike.

A staff photographer from TOGETHER magazine recently spent several days in the area and on the Asbury Trail. A special color section on Asbury is scheduled to appear in the magazine in August.

Methodist Shrines

We received a special appropriation of $4,250.00 per year which is designated for Methodist shrines. We remit $2,000.00 each to St. George's Church in Philadelphia and John Street Church in New York, and the balance is to be used for a study of our shrines and a report to the General Conference of 1960 on the subject. A committee has been named to prepare the report. We have gathered a mass of material, which is now on loan to TOGETHER Magazine.

The Southeastern Jurisdiction has named a committee to study the advisability of acquiring and maintaining the Green Hill House near Louisburg, North Carolina, the scene of many early meetings and conferences and where Asbury and Coke held the first conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church after its organization at the Christmas Conference in 1784. This is one of the most notable shrines of American Methodism and it is hoped that the effort to secure it will be successful.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the Smithsonian Institution has included a painting of old John Street Church in New York in the American exhibition at the Brussels World Fair as representative of early church life and architecture in this country.

Asbury's Boyhood Home

The town corporation of West Bromwich in England has taken over the boyhood home of Francis Asbury and has designated it as a historic spot.

Extensive renovation and repairs are under way. In due course we will be expected to make some financial contribution to the cost of this work and for future maintenance as a shrine, but further information is not now available. We should place a copy of Salisbury's portrait of Asbury and a set of the forthcoming *Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury* in the house.

The work of restoration will not be completed until next year, at which time there will be a ceremonial opening at which the American Ambassador and high representatives of Great Britain and the Methodist Church are expected to be present. We should send a representative of this Association to this event.

Aldersgate Street

A reconstruction scheme in London includes an arterial road through the Aldersgate area, famed among Methodists as the scene of John Wesley's great "heart Warming" experience of May 24, 1738. Present buildings will be demolished, the whole character of the section will be altered, and at one time it seemed that the very name of Aldersgate would disappear.

However, Dr. E. Benson Perkins has conferred with the London authorities and has been assured that the name "Aldersgate Street" will be allowed to remain and that in due course an appropriate plaque may be placed on the new industrial building to be erected. There has long been a small sign on the branch of Barclay's bank which related the area to the awakening of both John and Charles Wesley, and we should offer our cooperation in replacing it. I will look into this whole matter on the spot in July.

Future Work

Having completed the Asbury papers, the Association should at once launch other historical projects of comparable importance. The following are suggested:

1. *Encyclopedia of Methodism.* For fifty years or more this has been on the agenda adopted by the Ecumenical Methodist Conference and its successor, the World Methodist Council. This Association and other historical societies have endorsed it several times and the Methodist Publishing House has expressed interest in it. Still nothing has been done. The Lutheran World Federation now has 700 scholars at work on a Lutheran World Encyclopedia. The Mennonites have published an Encyclopedia in four 1,000-page volumes. The editor of the *Weltkirchenlexicon* or Ecumenical Church Encyclopedia now being prepared in Germany has expressed regret that the Methodists have produced no Encyclopedia since 1876. It is felt that this long-delayed project should be undertaken at once and on a world-wide scale.

2. *History of American Methodism.* The British are preparing an entirely new History of Methodism. We should prepare one on American Methodism, to complement the British work. There has not been a definitive history of the Church in this country in more than half a century.

3. *Who's Who In Methodism.* Another and better edition of this work should be prepared. Dr. T. Otto Nall has been in contact with the publishers and will present a report.

4. *Index of Memoirs.* We have already done some work on the memoirs published in the conference minutes of the three churches involved in unification. The librarian at the Methodist Publishing House at Nashville has performed a monumental task along this line, and has included the

preachers who left the itinerant ranks. Such an index would be extremely useful and should be prepared.

5. *Life of Asbury.* This is needed and desired, and complete data are now available for the first time. The Department of Ministerial Training desires such a volume for the Pastors' Schools, the Abingdon Press has such a biography in mind, and we have recently been approached about a life of Asbury for young people. We should find an author and sponsor such a biography at an early date.

6. We have previously discussed the need for editing and publishing certain early Methodist documents, such as the Journals of Thomas Haskin, Joseph Pilmoor, Thomas Rankin, and others. We have typescripts of several of these in our library. A considerable subsidy will be required in each case and we probably cannot provide much from our present budget. But we should select one or two manuscripts and begin the work of editing, and our askings for the next quadrennium should include an amount for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
EIMER T. CLARK, *Executive Secretary*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Kenneth Stahl presented the Treasurer's report, as follows:

RECEIPTS		
Appropriation for Historical Society	$20,000.00	
Appropriation for Shrines	4,250.00	
World Methodist Council app. for Asbury work	2,500.00	
Refunds from World Methodist Council	2,137.39	
Miscellaneous receipts (refunds, dues, etc.)	749.38	
Interest on Reserve Funds	166.20	$29,802.97
DISBURSEMENTS		
Salaries	$ 3,000.00	
Office Help	1,687.00	
Office Expenses	2,605.73	
Meetings and Travel	4,763.15	
Editorial and Publication	2,950.96	
Archives Materials	1,606.18	
Miscellaneous and Contingent	921.69	
St. George's Church	2,000.00	
John Street Church	2,000.00	
Designated Funds	6,000.00	$27,543.71
Cash Increase for Year		$ 2,268.26
Cash Balance as of June 1, 1957		$ 6,297.62
Cash Balance as of May 31, 1958		$ 8,565.88
Budgetary Balance	$ 2,070.43	
Reserve Funds	6,495.45	

STATEMENT ON BUDGET

	Budget	Expenditures	Budget Balance or Deficit
I. Salaries	$3,000.00	$ 3,000.00	
II. Office Help	2,500.00	1,687.00	$ 813.00

III. Office Expenses	2,000.00	2,605.73	—605.73
IV. Meetings and Travel	4,000.00	4,763.15	—763.15
V. Editorial and Publication	5,000.00	2,950.96	2,049.04
VI. Archives Materials	2,000.00	1,606.18	393.82
VII. Miscellaneous & Contingent	1,500.00	921.69	578.31
VIII. a. St. George's Church	2,000.00	2,000.00	—
b. John Street Church	2,000.00	2,000.00	—
c. Study of Shrines	250.00	—	—
IX. Designated Funds		6,000.00	—0600.00

Note: The Historical Society Budget for Items III, IV, V and VI were supplemented by the World Methodist Council. Thus the aparent deficits in Items III and IV are covered by refunds from the World Methodist Council.

Early Manuscripts

Jacob S. Payton referred to the statement in the Secretary's report regarding future work, and made a statement in favor of collecting, editing and publishing certain early Methodist documents. The Secretary stated that he had a microfilm and a photostatic copy of the Journal of Thomas Haskin, secured from the Library of Congress, but that the headquarters staff had been unable to decipher the manuscript at all points and were therefore unable to publish it. He further stated that he had been trying to secure a typescript from the Library of Congress, and Dr. Payton was asked to contact the Manuscript Division and secure such a typescript if possible.

On motion of Dr. Payton the following resolution was adopted:

"We look with favor on the projected publication of the Journal of Joseph Pilmoor under the auspices of the Philadelphia Conference Methodist Historical Society, and we offer our editorial cooperation and limited financial help in the publication of this important document."

Dr. Payton also moved that we should study the matter of collecting, editing and eventually publishing the unpublished early Methodist manuscripts in chronological order, taking into consideration, however, an evaluation of their importance. This motion was adpoted.

The following committee was named to locate and try to secure copies of the early manuscripts: Jacob S. Payton, Elmer T. Clark, Frederick E. Maser, Frank B. Stanger, and Lawrence Sherwood. Dr. Maser was named as chairman of this committee.

Encyclopedia of Methodism

The *Encyclopedia of Methodism*, as recommended in the Secretary's report, was again endorsed with the understanding that the work of securing an editorial board and starting preliminary work would begin at an early date. It was agreed that a representative group should be called together to discuss this whole project and also to discuss the proposed history of American Methodism.

Methodist Shrines

Lawrence Sherwood reported for the committee on Methodist Shrines. He stated that much material had been gathered but had not yet been classified. He pointed out that two things are involved in this project: first, a guidebook and map or series of maps on which all points of Methodist historical importance in the country are located, and second, a report to the General Conference on the definition of a "shrine" and a recommendation for the financial support of those that merit such assistance.

Lawrence Sherwood was named as chairman of this committee and instructed to continue the work.

Legislative Committee

In view of the approaching meeting of the General Conference, a motion was adopted providing for the creation of a legislative committee to study the program and needs of the Association during the next quadrennium. This committee was as follows: T. Otto Nall, Chairman, Elmer T. Clark, J. B. Cain, Albea Godbold.

Next Meeting

Frank B. Stanger moved that the next meeting of the Executive Committee be held separate and apart from any other meeting, and that the Secretary be authorized to set the time and place therefor. This was adopted.

The Committee adjourned.

T. Otto Nall, *Acting Chairman*
Elmer T. Clark, *Secretary*

WASHINGTON HONORS EDITORS OF HISTORICAL WORKS

On June 17, 1958, in the Capitol at Washington, the editors of the fourteen historical projects recommended by the Government were honored at a luncheon under the auspices of the National Archives and the National Historical Publications Commission. Representing the

Editors at Washington as guests of the National Historical Publications Commission, June 17, 1958. Left to right: FRONT ROW, seated—Leonard F. Faber, Assistant Editor, Adams Family Papers; Lyman H. Butterfield, Editor-in-Chief, Adams Family Papers; Waldo G. Leland, Director Emeritus, American Council of Learned Societies; Wayne C. Grover, Chairman of the Commission; Philip M. Hamer, Executive Director of the Commission; Leonard W. Labaree, Editor, Papers of Benjamin Franklin; Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., Associate Editor, Papers of Benjamin Franklin. MIDDLE ROW: William T. Hutchinson, Editor, James Madison Papers; Jacob E. Cooke, Assistant Editor, Alexander Hamilton Papers; Robert E. Cushman, Editor, Ratification of the Constitution Project; Elmer T. Clark, Editor-in-Chief, Journal and Letters of Bishop Francis Asbury; Harold C. Syrett, Executive Editor, Alexander Hamilton Papers; James F. Hopkins, Editor, Henry Clay Papers; Herbert Weaver, Editor, James K. Polk Papers; Watt P. Marchman, Director, Rutherford B. Hayes, Library; Marion Tinling, Editor-Transcriber, Debates of the First Congress. BACK ROW: David C. Eberhart, Editor, Public Papers of the Presidents; Julian P. Boyd, Editor, Thomas Jefferson Papers; Leonard A. Rapport, Assistant Editor, Ratification of the Constitution Project; Edgar B. Nixon, Editor, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library; James O. Wettereau, Executive Editor, Papers of Albert Gallatin; Ralph L. Ketcham, Associate Editor, James Madison Papers; LeRoy P. Graf, Editor, Andrew Johnson Papers; John W. Davidson, Associate Editor, Woodrow Wilson Papers; William M. E. Rachal, Editor, James Madison Papers.

Government were the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and six Associate Justices, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Archivist of the United States, the Executive Director of the Publications Commission, and numerous others. A letter of greetings was sent by President Eisenhower, who stated that he would ask the United States Information Agency to place copies of the various works in all the overseas libraries maintained by the Agency.

Among those present at the luncheon was Dr. Elmer T. Clark, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Francis Asbury*, now being published. With reference to this new publication the Director of the Commission has written as follows:

"Please let me congratulate you and your associates on the prospective publication of the Annotated Edition of the Journal and Letters of Bishop Francis Asbury. Completion of this undertaking constitutes a notable contribution to an understanding not only of the history of Methodism in the United States but also more broadly to many other aspects of the history of our nation.

"The publication of these records of the activities of Bishop Asbury is an important part of the general program for publishing historical documents that has been recommended by the National Historical Publications Commission and approved by two Presidents of the United States and by both Houses of the Congress of the United States.

"Every research library in the United States and many elsewhere will want to have copies of these volumes for the use of students that come to those libraries. So will many college and public libraries. It seems to me that many groups of Methodist laymen could think of no more appropriate gift to their respective pastors and to their local libraries than sets of these volumes.

"With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,
PHILIP M. HAMER
Executive Director, National Historical Publications Commission"

EVANGELISM IN THE WORLD PARISH

Prepared by the Committee on Evangelism, Dr. George H. Jones, of the Board of Evangelism, U.S.A., Editor.

The General Board of Evangelism of The Methodist Church in the United States of America dedicated its splendid headquarters building in Nashville, Tennessee, during its annual meeting in April. The Rev. Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of churches delivered the dedicatory address in the Upper Room Chapel. Probably this is the only major building in the world that is dedicated solely to the work of evangelism and the development of devotional life.

"Tell God's Good News" was the general theme of the nationwide quadrennial Methodist Convocation on Local Church Evangelism held at Washington, D. C., July 3-6, with approximately 6,000 persons in attendance. Three major emphases were:

1. Every Methodist church an evangelistic church;
2. Every Methodist a witnessing Christian;
3. Every Methodist church cooperating in sponsoring a new church.

A follow-up booklet was presented, entitled "The Local Church Has a Job to Do," and it was strongly urged that convocations on local church evangelism be held in every annual conference, in every district, and in every church or charge.

Ten Targets for Evangelism in the Local Church have been adopted by the General Board of Evangelism, U.S.A., and strongly recommended to every local church as ways and means for effective evangelism and increased results. These targets include finding more persons; having 10% of membership engaged in seeking, witnessing, and praying to win persons; increasing the devotional life and deepening the spiritual life; activating the commission on evangelism; and having a week of visitation evangelism, a week of preaching evangelism, and training classes in church membership every year.

A very effective Workshop for Ministers and Directors of Evangelism and Visitation was held April 15-21 in Nashville Tennessee, by the General Board of Evangelism, U.S.A. A total of 53 workers in evangelism, most of whom were associate pastors with a few laymen, attended this very significant conference which will likely become an annual affair with greatly increased attendance.

The Protestant Pavilion at the Brussels World's Fair is attracting huge crowds and becomes in itself a witness to evangelical Christianity. "We have a message for everybody," said Pastor Pieter Fogel,

the project's leader, "and when millions of people come to a definite place, the church has to be there." The Pavilion was dedicated "for the manifesting and proclaiming in the world today the presence and the love of God . . . for the worship of Almighty God, for the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the service of all men under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. . . ."

Methodist Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri of Buenos Aires, Argentina, one of the presidents of the World Council of Churches, recently visited the Protestant churches in Italy. He lectured on Methodism at the Theological School of the Waldensian Church at Rome, and spoke to several Methodist gatherings in different areas of Italy. He will visit and lecture in the United States in the fall, including Scarritt College for Christian Workers and Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Bishop Barbieri prepared his Waldensian lectures in the library of the World Methodist Building at Lake Junalaska, North Carolina, U.S.A.

Methodist membership in Puerto Rico reached an all-time high of 7,500 in 1957 during which year 500 new members were received, several new churches erected and a number of others improved their building facilities.

Twelve U. S. Methodist ministers participated in an evangelistic mission to Costa Rica April 13-20. It was the first such mission to that country. The project was sponsored by the Boards of Evangelism and Missions. Reports show 4,866 persons attended the meetings, and 172 laymen were trained in visitation evangelism.

The Gospel is reaching ever-increasing numbers of Japanese through radio, television, moving pictures, and printed page. The *United Church of Christ in Japan,* a 16-year-old union of eight principal denominations, continues to be the main avenue for organized Christian witness. The Methodist Church serves through this Japanese operated church, providing 132 missionaries of the total 405 related to it.

Probably the most significant evangelistic mission of the year, that involved preaching through an interpreter, was the one in Seoul, Korea at Ewha University which witnessed 579 persons, 18 years of age and older, being baptized. Dr. Harry Denman, general secretary of the Board of Evangelism, U.S.A., led the mission, assisted by Dr. J. Manning Potts, editor of *The Upper Room.* Among those baptized were 30 faculty members, a number of employees of the University

and hundreds of students. Probably the most of those who were baptized had religious backgrounds of Buddhism and Confucianism.

About 120 Methodist ministers and laymen from the United States took part in the annual 10-day evangelistic crusade in Cuba this year. Every Methodist church in Cuba conducted evangelistic services and home visitation during the period and 2,357 persons were enrolled in training class for church membership.

Methodism continues to grow in one of its newest mission fields—Mindanao, the southernmost major island of the Philippines. In the last three years—1954 to 1957—the following increases have been witnessed: church members, 1,046 to 1,061; church buildings, 20 to 29; woman's societies, 13 to 20; church organizations, 33 to 46; and average Sunday School attendance from 952 to 1,815. FLASH: the 1958 membership in Mindanao is 2,255—indeed remarkable!

A net gain of 6% in Methodist membership in Peru was recorded last year as a result of the emphasis on evangelism.

Chile had a net gain of 5% in membership last year. The gain in Chile during the last 12 years has been 51% in full members, 36% in probationary members, and 34% in Sunday School enrollment.

Cuba witnessed the establishment of 41 new Methodist congregations last year, bringing the total to 225, and the erection of 13 new churches or chapels, making a total of 116. The net increase of 853 members last year was more than a 10% gain and brought the total membership to 9,109. The evangelistic mission to Cuba, sponsored by the Boards of Evangelism and Missions helped greatly in this.

In Southern Rhodesia, Methodism is growing. Between 1941 and 1955 the active membership increased from 7,091 to 15,144. New churches are being built.

In Sarawak many more Ibans want to be baptized than can be received. The problem is to train them, discipline them, and help them to the fullness of Christian living.

Norfolk, Virginia, recently celebrated in a magnificent way the 125th anniversary of the sailing from Norfolk on Nov. 1, 1832 of Melville Cox, the first foreign missionary of Methodism in America to Africa, and of the sailing from Norfolk on Jan. 1. 1833 of John Brooks Pinney, the first foreign missionary sent out by the Presbyterian Church in America. Both went to Liberia.

In the recent quadrennial meeting of the Woman's Division of Christian Service at St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A., 10,000 representatives of the 1,805,599 members of 31,014 woman's societies pledged nearly eight million dollars for their missionary work in the United States and 32 countries overseas. The women support 514 missionaries, hundreds of national church workers overseas, and some 2,000 deaconnesses and other workers. The Secretary of the World Methodist Council resident in the United States represented the Council at a program under the auspices of the World Federation of Methodist Women.

Someone has said that the two most strategic areas for Protestant missions and evangelism today are Africa and South America. Certainly South America has become increasingly important. During the last year there was tremendous growth in South American initiative for the evangelization of that continent.

Dr. E. Stanley Jones held the first Ashram in Africa in January. It was in Wembo Nyama in the Central Congo and lasted five days. Mr. Jones says: "It went deep . . . the group was melted into one by the Spirit. The missionaries had come from all the stations and the week made a profound change in everybody."

In Lodja, Central Congo, a remarkable spiritual awakening is going through the villages. Whole nights are spent in the public confession of sins. The sins confessed are startling, but lives are changed and the end results are good.

"The Africans have responded amazingly to the three fingers raised as a farewell and a greeting," writes Dr. E. Stanley Jones. "They love it . . . the three fingers mean, *Jesus is Lord,* the earliest Christian creed. It has positive content."

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of Methodist work in Uruguay, the Uruguay Provisional Annual Conference has launched evangelistic and stewardship campaigns. The methods of visitation evangelism will

be used in Uruguay, following up last year's evangelistic mission in which three teams of ministers from the United States participated.

Seven Methodists were among a group of 17 ministers from the United States who participated in an evangelistic mission in the Dominican Republic, Feb. 24-March 6.

In his book, *The Bible is World Evangelism,* A. M. Chirgwin says that in Brazil, Christianity is growing more rapidly than anywhere else on earth. In this remarkable growth, Methodism is taking part. The three Annual Conferences have been re-arranged into five. In the city of Sao Paulo, there were 53 Methodist churches last year, and every one of them had a building program under way.

The United Church of Christ in Japan (of which Methodism is a part) has appointed the first post-war missionary to Okinawa. He is the son of a Japanese missionary to Peru.

In England Methodist membership showed a 2,764 decrease last year.

In the island of Ceylon there was a decrease of 535 Methodist members last year, with 20 circuits reporting decreased membership. The Chairman of the Church Synod in Ceylon, in his opening address noted some of the reasons as follows:

1. "Among our members there is much ignorance of essential Christian truths."
2. "Many of our people . . . do not have first-hand personal religious experience."
3. "Many are ignorant of the nature of the Church and its divine work."
4. "They separate religion from life and say that one has nothing to do with the other."

On Hokkaido, the northern Island of Japan, a planned movement termed Hokkaido Pioneer Evangelism began, calling for the establishment of 50 new strong mature churces. Already there are 22 of these new churches in various stages of growth, with five or six new churches planned for each additional year.

The Rev. Joseph D. Blinco, Methodist minister of England, as a member of the Billy Graham evangelistic team, has had many world

contacts and rich experiences in evangelism. Mr. Blinco himself held evangelistic services in the campaign, throughout the island of Trinidad in the Caribbean in January and February. He preached with great power to thousands of people and the whole island was blessed.

Dr. J. Alan Kay, editor of *The Methodist Magazine*, of London, will be visiting the United States in August, speaking in a number of American churches. This magazine, begun by John Wesley in 1778, is the world's oldest magazine.

Major-General G. Osborne, one of the most prominent Episcopalian ministers in Australia and a valued friend of Methodists there, will visit the United States next fall. He will be speaking on a number of college campuses and in churches across the nation.

Two Waldensian ministers and a layman attended the recent meeting of Methodists in Italy. There has been discussion of union involving Methodists and Waldensians. The latter are the oldest group of Protestants in the world. By a standing and unanimous vote amid applause, the synod of Italian Methodists recognized the equal value of the ministry and sacraments of both Methodists and Waldensians. The executives of both churches are to study practical ways of cooperating, especially in evangelism.

The United States Government has included a picture of John Street Methodist Church in New York in the American exhibit at the Brussels World's Fair as representative of early American architecture and religious life. It houses the oldest Methodist society on the continent, organized by Philip Embury and Barbara Heck in 1766. Three Methodist churches have stood on the same site, erected in 1768, 1818, and 1841.

The August number of *Together* magazine, magnificent home publication of the Methodist Church, U.S.A., with one million subscribers, features Francis Asbury, greatest American evangelist, first bishop and virtual creator of Methodism on the continent of America. There is a three-page article on Asbury and eight pages of pictures in full color made along the Asbury Trail over which Asbury and Bishop McKendree crossed the eastern mountains in 1810. The World Methist Council is having the feature reprinted in brochure form.

SOME NEW BOOKS

The Abingdon Press of Nashville has recently published three new books that are of great interest to Methodists.

Inside Methodist Union, by Bishop James H. Straughn (192 pp. $3.00) is what its name implies. The author, then President of the Methodist Protestant Church, was a prominent member of the Commission which worked out and secured the adoption of the plan which brought the three great bodies of American Methodism together into what is now a ten-million-member church. His book is a complete story and an invaluable record.

Frontier Bishop, by Dr. North M. Tippy (207 pp. $3.50) is the story of the life and times of Bishop R. R. Roberts, who was elected in 1816 to succeed Asbury. The book is very interesting and significant. Dr. Tippy is a competent historian and has spent a long life of over ninety years in service of Methodism. For example, he was a pastor in New York in 1915 and chose young Ralph W. Sockman as his assistant—and his successor who has spent his whole ministerial career in one pastorate.

Church Membership in the Methodist Tradition, by Professor Frederick A. Norwood (141 pp. $2.75) is a manual which all Methodist members should study. It discusses "getting in, staying in, and putting out." Very valuable is an appendix which contains the General Rules by John and Charles Wesley and the Notes on the Discipline of 1796 by Coke and Asbury.

The Methodist Way of Life, by Bishop Gerald Kennedy (216 pp. $3.50) was not published by Abingdon Press but is sold (as all the above are) by all the Methodist book stores. Bishop Kennedy tells the story of the Methodist heritage and tradition, the rise and struggles of the church, and "how it feels to be a Methodist."